

Fuel supply problem in Travancore.

8. **Mr. T. M. Chidambarathanu Pillai:** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether they are aware that the fuel supply problem in Travancore has become acute especially in the towns owing to the abnormal increase in their prices and the scarcity of supply ; and

(b) whether they will be pleased to open Government Fuel Depots in important towns controlling their prices and thus reducing the grievances of the public in the matter ?

Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai:

(a) There has been an increase in the price of fuel as in the case of other essential commodities.

(b) Government do not consider that the establishment of Government Depots is necessary.

Grow more food policy.

9. **Mr. V. N. Padmanabha Pillai (Parur, Kunnathnad and Muvattupuzha cum Devicolum):** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) the various measures adopted by the Government towards implementing their "grow more food" policy after the present food scarcity arose ;

(b) the total extent of land available for paddy cultivation within the forest area ;

(c) how much of this has been utilised for paddy cultivation till the end of 1119 ;

(d) the reasons for the rest of the abovesaid area, if any, not being utilised for the paddy cultivation ;

(e) what was the method employed to determine the area available for paddy cultivation within the forests ;

(f) whether they are aware that there are Government lands outside the forest which can be made available for paddy cultivation without detriment to public interests ;

(g) whether they have taken any steps to ascertain whether there are such lands and if so, what steps ;

(h) whether they are aware that there are vast areas of registered paddy lands which can be made more productive by opening irrigation works ; and

(i) whether they have created any agency to ascertain whether there are such lands ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: (a) (i) Opening of departmental manure depots and stocking of artificial fertilisers for sale to ryots at cost price and on crop loan basis.

(ii) Manufacture of compost manure with town refuse and nightsoil and leaf mould obtained from Reserved Forest areas for augmenting the local production of manures.

(iii) Conversion of single crop paddy lands in North Travancore into double crop lands under Lift Irrigation Scheme.

(iv) Insistence on the annual cultivation of kayal and other reclamations.

(v) Cultivation of vegetables on water free areas in the irrigation tanks.

(vi) Arranging for the supply of iron and steel for the manufacture of agricultural implements.

(vii) Conduct of cultural demonstrations on ryots' lands for convincing them of the needs for using better manures, better seed and better implements for increasing the yield of paddy.

(viii) Carrying on vigorous propaganda by the officers of the Department for putting every bit of available land under food crops.

(ix) Leasing out suitable wet and dry lands available from reserved forests.

(b) About 5,900 acres.

(c) About 3,970 acres.

(d) There has been no demand for the land.

(e) Inspection and survey of areas indicated by the petitions from the general public as well as those known to the Department.

(f) No.

(g) The question does not arise in view of answer to part (f).

(h) Necessary investigation will be made if specific instances are brought to the notice of Government.

(i) Yes. The irrigation branch of the Public Works Department.

Appendix I.

Vide Answer to Question No. 150.

Statistics of export of coir yarn.

Year.	Quantity Tons.	Value Rs.	Duty Rs.
1115	33,434	63,45,121	4,01,369
1116	26,824	42,96,448	3,22,017
1117	34,012	63,72,342	4,08,240
1118	27,063	75,51,868	3,24,856
First 9 months of 1119	24,351	95,22,850	2,92,355